

D.J.  
#5 12-16-01  
IDS w/ refer

11046 U.S. PTO  
09/823052  
03/30/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Agichtein, et al.

**Docket:** 14367

**Serial No.:** Unassigned

**Group Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Dated:** March 30, 2001

**For:** METHOD FOR RETRIEVING  
ANSWERS FROM AN INFORMATION  
RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Abney, S. et al. "Answer Extraction," In *Applied natural Language Processing and the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ANLP-NAACL2000)*, 2000

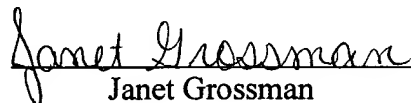
---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

Express Mail Mailing Label Number: EL 835917829 US  
Date of Deposit: March 30, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 C.F.R. '1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Dated: March 30, 2001

  
Janet Grossman

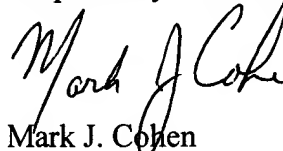
2. Aliod, D. et al., "A Real World Implementation of Answer Extraction." *Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Database and Expert Systems, Workshop: Natural Language and Information Systems (NLIS-98)*, 1998.
3. Brin, s. et al., "The Anatomy of a Large-Scale Hypertextual Web Search Engine," *7<sup>th</sup> International World Wide Web Conference (WWW-7)*, April, 1998.
4. Burke, R. et al., "Knowledge-based Information Retrieval from Semi-Structured Text," *Proceedings of the AAAI Fall Symposium on AI Applications in Knowledge Navigation and Retrieval*, pp. 19-24, 1995.
5. Cardie, C. et al., "Examining the Role of Statistical and Linguistic Knowledge Sources in a General-Knowledge Question-Answering System," In *Applied natural Language Processing and the North American Chapter of the Associated for Computational Linguistics (ANLP-NAACL2000)*, 2000.
6. Hawking, D. et al., "Results and Challenges in Web Search Evaluation," *8<sup>th</sup> International World Wide Web Conference (WWW-8)*, May 1999.
7. Mitra, M. et al., "Improving Automatic Query Expansion," *ACM SIGIR*, August, 1998.
8. Moldovan, D. et al., "Lasso: A Tool for Surfing the Answer Net," *Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-8)*, pp. 175-184, November 1999.
9. Robertson, S.E., "On Term Selection for Query Expansion," *Journal of Documentation*, Vol. 46, pp. 359-364, 1990.
10. Robertson, S. et al., "Relevance Weighting of Search Terms," *Journal of American Society for Information Science*, Vol. 27, pp. 129-146F, 1976.
11. Robertson, S. et al., "On Relevance Weights with Little Relevance Information," *ACM SIGIR-97*, July, 1997.
12. Robertson, S. et al., "Okapi at TREC-7: Automatic ad hoc, Filter, VLC and Interactive," *Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-7)*, 1998.

13. Spink, A. et al., "Elicitation Queries to the Excite Web Search Engine," Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM-2000), pp. 134-140, November, 2000.
14. Voorhees, E.M., "The TREC-8 Question Answering Track Report," Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-8), November, 1999.
15. Xu, J. et al., "Improving the Effectiveness of Information Retrieval with Local Context Analysis," Proceedings of the ACM Transactions on Information Systems (TOIS-2000), Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 79-112, 2000.

Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R§1.97(b), no petition, certification or fee is required. Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark J. Cohen

Registration No. 32,211

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

MJC:dra



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Docket Number (Optional) <b>14367</b>	Application Number <b>Unassigned</b>
*EXAMINER INITIAL		Applicant(s) <b>Agichtein, et al.</b>	
OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>

*EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>
	Brin, s. et al., "The Anatomy of a Large-Scale Hypertextual Web Search Engine," 7th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW-7), April, 1998.
	Burke, R. et al., "Knowledge-based Information Retrieval from Semi-Structured Text," Proceedings of the AAAI Fall Symposium on AI Applications in Knowledge Navigation and Retrieval, pp. 19-24, 1995.
	Cardie, C. et al., "Examining the Role of Statistical and Linguistic Knowledge Sources in a General-Knowledge Question-Answering System," In Applied natural Language Processing and the North American Chapter of the Associated for Computational Linguistics (ANLP-NAACL2000), 2000.
	Hawking, D. et al., "Results and Challenges in Web Search Evaluation," 8th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW-8), May 1999
	Mitra, M. et al., "Improving Automatic Query Expansion," ACM SIGIR, August, 1998.
	Moldovan, D. et al., "Lasso: A Tool for Surfing the Answer Net," Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-8), pp. 175-184, November 1999.
	Robertson, S.E., "On Term Selection for Query Expansion," Journal of Documentation, Vol. 46, pp. 359-364, 1990.
	Robertson, S. et al., "Relevance Weighting of Search Terms," Journal of American Society for Information Science, Vol. 27, pp. 129-146F, 1976.
	Robertson, S. et al., "On Relevance Weights with Little Relevance Information," ACM SIGIR-97, July, 1997
	Robertson, S. et al., "Okapi at TREC-7: Automatic ad hoc, Filter, VLC and Interactive," Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-7), 1998.
	Spink, A. et al., "Elicitation Queries to the Excite Web Search Engine," Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM-2000), pp. 134-140, November, 2000.
	Voorhees, E.M., "The TREC-8 Question Answering Track Report," Proceedings of the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC-8), November, 1999.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		Docket Number (Optional) <b>14367</b>		Application Number <b>Unassigned</b>	
		Applicant(s) <b>Agichtein, et al.</b>			
		Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>		Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>	
*EXAMINER INITIAL		OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>			
		Xu, J. et al., "Improving the Effectiveness of Information Retrieval with Local Context Analysis," Proceedings of the ACM Transactions on Information Systems (TOIS-2000), Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 79-112, 2000.			
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED			
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.					